

World War and History Blog

We will introduce various episodes related to war and military history, as well as the rise and fall of dynasties and nations.

Tsar Bomba: The evil "emperor" who will destroy the world

Hello everyone.

Starting from this time, I would like to talk about a new theme, the many unknown "surprising weapons" that humanity has created throughout history, so if you are interested, please stop by to kill time.

The first episode is about the Tsar Bomba, the largest nuclear weapon in history, created in the former Soviet Union during the Cold War, which is still fresh in our memories .

Tsar Bomba was created in July 1961 (Showa 36) by order of the then Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev, and three months later, at the end of October of the same year, an explosion test was conducted on Novaya Zemlya, a large island near the Arctic in the north of the Soviet Union. Above is Sergei Nikita Khrushchev, the then Soviet Premier. (1894-1971) He was the third supreme leader of the former Soviet Union, following Lenin, and it is well known that he criticized the many oppressive regimes and personality cults of the previous dictator Stalin. During his reign as the leader of the Soviet Union, the country was in the midst of a fierce nuclear arms development race with the United States. Khrushchev's basic policy was "coexistence" with the United States and other Western countries, but at the same time, in order to show the United States the military might of the Soviet Union, he carried out nuclear tests using the "hydrogen bomb," which had the largest and most powerful power of any nuclear test that had been conducted by either the United States or the Soviet Union up to that point. Above is a life-size model of the hydrogen bomb, Tsar Bomba. You can see how huge it is when you compare it to the people next to it. This hydrogen bomb was developed by a group including Dr. Andrei Sakharov, who was called the "father of the hydrogen bomb" in the Soviet Union (a name that is not very flattering or something to be proud of, haha). Above is Dr. Andrei Sakharov, the creator of Tsar Bomba. (1921-1989) He was 40 years old at the time and was the Soviet Union's top physicist at the time, who also developed many other nuclear weapons. The first Soviet atomic bomb in 1948 was also created by him, who was only 27 years old at the time. However, after witnessing the terrible radioactive contamination caused by the tests of the Tsar Bomba and many other nuclear weapons that he had created, he abandoned his career and began to speak out against nuclear weapons. Anyway, after a long introduction, let's continue with the story of the largest hydrogen bomb in history, the Tsar Bomba. The name of this monster bomb, Tsar Bomba, means "Emperor of Bombs" in Russian, and was named by Western countries as the king of all nuclear bombs, or the "Emperor," simply because of its enormous size and its unparalleled destructive power. It weighed 27 tons, was 8 meters long, and had a diameter of 2 meters. Here, I will briefly explain the principle of this "hydrogen bomb." As the name suggests, it uses hydrogen as its energy source, and uses the radiation generated by the nuclear fission reaction, as well as the ultra-high temperature and ultra-high pressure to induce a nuclear fusion reaction, which releases an enormous amount of energy. It is also called a "thermonuclear bomb" or "thermonuclear weapon" because it causes a nuclear fusion reaction (thermonuclear reaction) due to its extremely high temperature, and its destructive power far exceeds that of an atomic bomb. (It takes a huge amount of energy to cause a nuclear fusion reaction in this hydrogen, which is why an "atomic bomb" is used as the detonator for a hydrogen bomb.) On October 30, 1961, the TU-95, the largest strategic bomber in the Soviet Union, which was specially modified for this hydrogen bomb test, carried it to the sky above Novaya Zemlya, mentioned above, and dropped it at an altitude of about 10,500 meters around 73 degrees north latitude. Above is the location of Novaya Zemlya and the TU-95, the largest long-range strategic bomber in the Soviet Union, which carried the Tsar Bomba. (It is a large propeller plane with a total length of about 50 meters and four engines, but surprisingly, this bomber is still in active service with the Russian Air Force. The reason for this is that, despite being a propeller plane, it boasts a maximum speed of over 900 km/h, which is faster than the maximum speed of the 860 km/h of the US military's long-range strategic bomber B-52, which uses a turbojet engine. Even today, there is no propeller plane that can exceed the speed of the TU-95, and it is famous as the fastest propeller plane in the world.) Due to the size of the Tsar Bomba, it could not be loaded onto the TU-95 as it was, so the bomb bay doors and wing fuel tanks

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reluctantly loaded in a semi-recessed manner. Above is a picture of this and the moment the bomb was dropped. (Sorry, it's not clear.) The thing fluttering behind the bomb is a parachute to slow down the speed at which the bomb is dropped, and this alone apparently weighed 800 kg. The reason for installing this was to give the aircraft time to retreat to a safe area about 45 km from the hypocenter. Without it, the intense heat rays and shock waves would instantly wipe out the aircraft along with the crew, and the warhead would crash into the ground at high speed, causing unimaginable consequences. The Tsar Bomba exploded in the air when it reached an altitude of 4,000 meters, with a blast radius of 23 kilometers, and the heat rays that caused fatal burns reaching a radius of 58 kilometers. The three photos above capture the moment of the Tsar Bomba explosion, and the fourth and fifth photos compare the fireball and mushroom cloud with those used in other nuclear tests. (The numbers indicate the distance from the center, so the diameter of the Tsar Bomba's fireball was 4.6 kilometers.) The fireball from the explosion reached the ground, and the upper part reached an altitude of 10,000 meters, the same as the altitude of the drop, and it was visible from a distance of 1,000 kilometers. The mushroom cloud that was created reached a height of 60 kilometers and a width of 30 to 40 kilometers. (By the way, the "mushroom cloud" that is created by a nuclear explosion is a phenomenon in which the moisture in the air around the explosion instantly evaporates and evaporates due to the heat rays from the explosion, and rises up as water vapor.) Due to the nature of the hydrogen bomb, there was only a small amount of radioactive contamination due to nuclear fission, but the shock wave from this explosion was recorded by an air vibration gauge even after traveling around the earth three times, and it was observed to reach a weather station in Japan. It had a power of 50 megatons (1 megaton is 1,000 kilotons, which means the nuclear output equivalent to the energy released when one million tons of TNT explosive explodes. TNT explosive is the most destructive high explosive other than nuclear weapons.) It was the largest and most powerful weapon that mankind has ever created, and at the same time, it was truly the "Evil Emperor" with the power to destroy the world.



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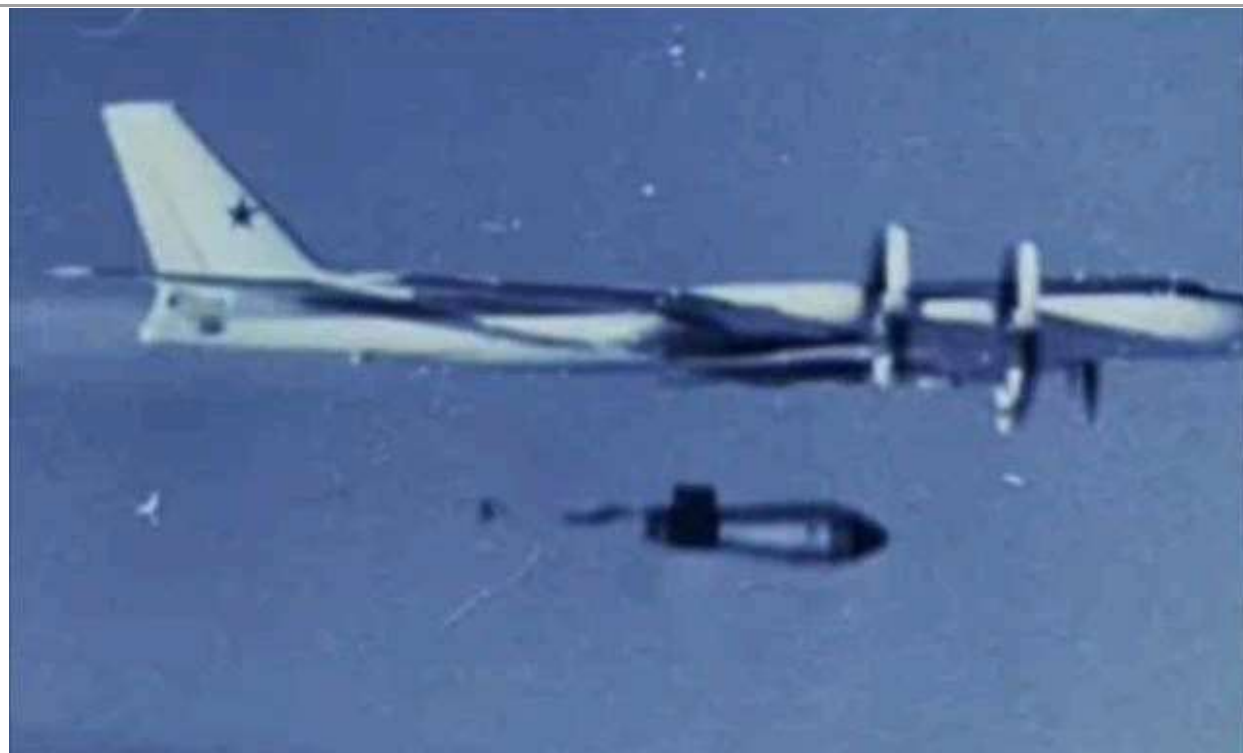
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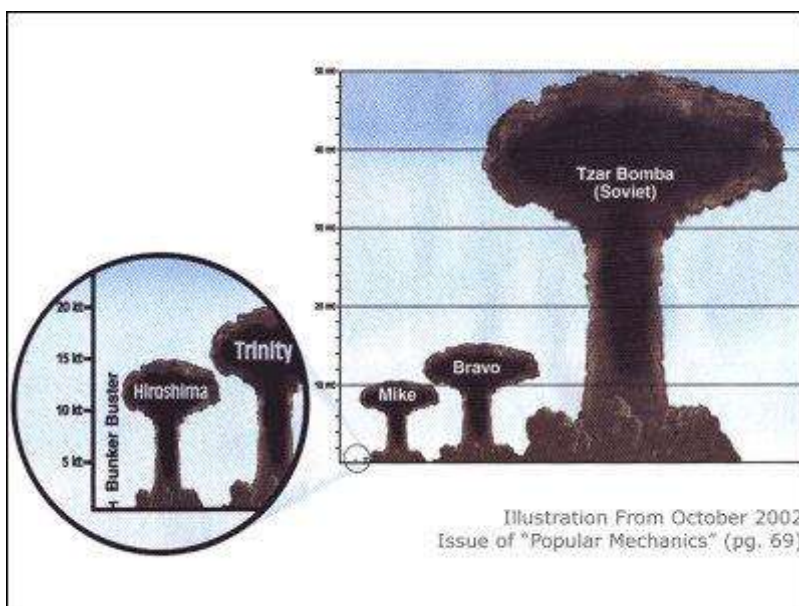
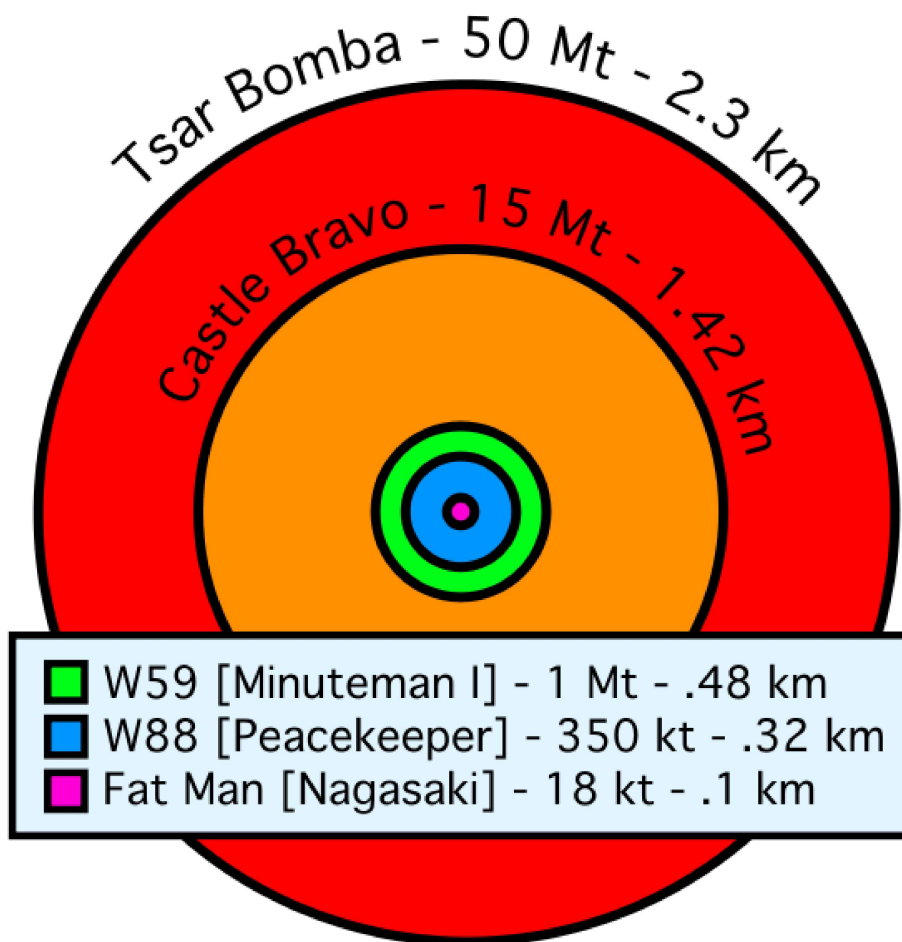
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Finally, let's talk about the two men who created this monster bomb, Khrushchev and Dr. Sakharov. Khrushchev, who ordered the experiment, later managed to settle the famous "Cuban Missile Crisis" in 1962, which came close to a nuclear war between the US and the Soviet Union, with the then US President Kennedy, and also listened to Dr. Sakharov's advice and signed the "Partial Nuclear Test Ban Treaty" with the US and the UK, promoting nuclear disarmament. However, due to his short-tempered and passionate personality, his abusive language and rude behavior were disliked, and he also tried to concentrate power in himself, so in October 1964 (Showa 39, the year of the Tokyo Olympics in Japan), he was forcibly dismissed and ousted by the anti-Khrushchev group including his political rival Leonid Brezhnev. Above is Kennedy and Khrushchev meeting. As you all know, Kennedy was assassinated, Khrushchev was overthrown, and he was kept under surveillance by the authorities in his villa on the outskirts of Moscow until his death at the age of 77 in 1971 (Showa 40). (A note: the distinction between 'kt' and 'Mt' is 1,000 times. 1 Mt = 1,000 kt.)

surprisingly pro-Japan, and was especially envious of Japan at the time when it had rebuilt from the ruins after the war and achieved astonishing economic development. He said, "It was a mistake for the Soviet Union not to sign the San Francisco Peace Treaty. We should have had friendly relations with Japan, even if it meant making concessions on the Northern Territories issue." If he had remained the leader of the Soviet Union, the Northern Territories issue, which continues to this day, may have developed differently. (This is just my personal opinion, but I think that if this issue can be resolved, Japan and Russia can have a friendly relationship. Individual Russians are very good people.) As mentioned above, Dr. Sakharov, the creator of Tsar Bomba, spoke out against nuclear weapons after this experiment, and this escalated into an anti-establishment movement calling for freedom and democratization to the leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. Eventually, his activities were internationally recognized, and he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1975 (Showa 50), but he gradually became an obstacle to Brezhnev and the Soviet government. He also openly protested against the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1980, so General Secretary Brezhnev, who had become fed up with him, stripped him of all his honors and exiled him. Above is General Secretary Leonid Brezhnev, the supreme leader of the Soviet Union at the time, who exiled Dr. Sakharov. (1907-1982) After overthrowing Khrushchev, he continued to reign as the supreme authority of the Soviet Union for 18 years until his death. However, during that time, he was involved in a fierce power struggle at home, the invasion of Afghanistan, the boycott of the Moscow Olympics by the United States and other Western countries in protest of the invasion of Afghanistan, and the endless arms race with the United States and the resulting financial collapse, which led to the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, nine years later. (Although many people may have focused on his thick eyebrows. lol) However, after that, in 1986 (Showa 61), the reformist Gorbachev became General Secretary and was released from exile, and he supported the "perestroika" that Gorbachev promoted, making a major contribution to the reforms, and his statements based on conscience and courage also earned him the respect of people in the West. He also visited Japan in February 1989 (Heisei 1) and was granted an audience with the newly crowned Emperor, and passed away in December of the same year at the age of 68. The Tsar Bomba was the largest and most powerful single weapon in human history, but due to its size it was deemed unsuitable for actual combat (although I think nuclear weapons themselves are unsuitable for use on this planet), and was never mass-produced. We can only pray that such a frightening "emperor" never appears in this world again. (There is only one "emperor" in the world, and our Emperor, who resides in the Imperial Palace in Tokyo, is enough. Lol)





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[The True Story of Rasputin 1/8 - A Peasant in Aristocratic Society](#)

In a battle of creepy faces, even I lost to this guy. *President Putin and Rasputin have no relationship whatsoever. Grigory Rasputin, a saint who was close to the Russian Tsar's family, was murdered in the basement of a palace in St. Petersburg in 1916. To his many enemies, he was the epitome of evil. He was killed because he was the powerful man behind the scenes at the court, and it was believed that his negative influence would lead to the collapse of the imperial regime. A few years later...

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